1	2	3
31. Lakshadweep	7.9	1.7
32. Pondicherry	135.5	78.7
TOTAL:	36275.5	23666.4

NOTE:—l.'No Employment Exchange is functioning in this State.
2. Figures may not add up to total due to rounding off.
3. P Provisional.

India's export share in International Market

*114. SHRI RAJ NATH SINGH:
SHRIMATI MALTI SHARMA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India's share of exports in international market is very low at present;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the details of its actual share; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to boost the exports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) India's share in world exports during 1993 is 0.58% as per available data regarding world trade. Initially India'* economic policies were grcared towards import substitution. It is since 1991 that India has decided to accelerate the country's transition to an internationally oriented economy.

(c) Recognising that international trade is a key component of global economic activity today, the Government have taken a number of steps to encourage and maintain strong export growth. India's trade policy was liberalised in July' 91 to respond to the opportunities and challenges posed by the domestic and international developments. The trade policy has aimed at creating a free environment for trade, strengthening the export promotion structure, removing procedural irritants through simplification and streamlining of procedures, increasing export production, improving efficiency and sharpening competitive edge, facilitating input availability, focussing on quality and technological upgradation besides introducing and strengthening schemes for export promotion. Efforts have been made to provide cheaper export credits and provide tax exemption on export profits- Export promotion is a continuous process and steps are taken to boost exports in consultation with trade, industry and concerned institutions.

Meeting of SAARC Committee on Economic Cooperation

*115. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the 6th meeting of the SAARC Committee on Economic Cooperation (CEC) under the Chairmanship of Indian Commerce Secretary was held in New Delhi recently as reported in the 'Hindustan Times' dated 17.11.95; and

(b) if so, what concrete steps were taken by the SAARC body to promote trade and economic cooperation amongst SAARC countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Yes Sir, The 6th Meeting of the SAARC Committee on Economic Cooperation was held in New Delhi from November 16-17, 1995, under Chairmanship of India's Commerce Secretary.

(b) The more important measures recommended by the CEC at its 6th meeting aimed at promotion of trade and economic cooperation among SAARC countries arc the following:

(i) Initiating the second round of negotiations for removal of para-tariff, non-tariff and other trade control barriers, expanding and deepening the tariff preferences under SAPTA, and progression towards an eventual goal of a free trade area in South Asia.

(ii) Consideration of measures for trade facilitation like improving visa, customs and import-export licensing procedures;

(iii) Mutual sharing of information for overseas bulk purchases by the Member Governments; and

(iv) Initiating a tripartite study by the Governmental, business and academic sectors for expansion of economic cooperation including sub-regional cooperation and . informal trade; and another study for promotion of intra-rcgional investments and joint ventures.

राज्य व्यापार निगम के माध्यम से अखबारी कागज का आयात

*116. **श्री मोहम्मद अफजल उर्फ मीम अफजल :** क्या वाणिल्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि सरकार राज्य व्यापार निगम के माध्यम से अखबारी कागज का आयात करने पर विचार कर रही है,

(ख) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है, और

(ग) यदि नहीं, तो उसके क्या कारण है ?

वाणिज्य मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री पी0 चिदम्बरम्) : (क) से (ग) समाचार पत्रों के कुछ संगठनों के अनुरोध पर एस0 टी0 सी0 ने कतिपय शर्तों पर अखबारी कागज का आयात कर उसे अखबारी फर्मों को बेचने की पेशकश की है । यदि अखबारी फर्में इन शर्तों को मान लेते हैं तो एस0 टी0 सी0 इस कार्य को कर सकती है ।

Proposal to Prohibit import of Edible Oils

♦117. SHRI JOY NADUKKARA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state whether Government propose to prohibit import of all types of edible oils till the price raises to a reasonable level in view of the continuous fall in price of coconut?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): Import of Coconut Oil, Palm Kernel Oil, RBD Palm Oil and RBD Palm Stearin, is canalised. There is no proposal to restrict import of other edible oils.

खाड़ी के देशों में भारतीय मजदूरों की भर्ती

*118. **श्री नागमणि :**

श्री ईश दत्त यादव :

क्या श्रम मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या खाड़ी के देशों में भारतीय मजदूरों की भर्ती में कोई कमी आई है,

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस संबंध में ब्यौरा क्या हैं और इसके क्या कारण हैं, और

(ग) सरकार ने इन देशों में भारतीय मजदूरों के जाने को बढ़ाया देने के लिएक्या कदम उठाये हैं ?

श्रम मंत्री (श्री जी0 वेंकट स्वामी) : (क) जी, नहीं ।

(ख) प्रश्न नहीं उठता ।

(ग) निम्नलिखित छह और श्रेणियों के कर्मकारों को 4.10.1991. से "उत्प्रवास जांच आवश्कय नहीं (ई0 सी0 एन0 आर0)", श्रेणी की परिधि में शामिल करके उत्प्रवास प्रक्रिया को और सरल कर दिया गया है:-

(i) पर्यवेक्षक (सभी व्यवसाय),

(ii) कुशल कर्मकार (सभी व्यवसाय),

(iii) अर्द्ध-कुशल कर्मकार (सभी व्यवसाय),